

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/749,728

Examiner

Jeffrey Sharp

Applicant(s)

GUTHRIE ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 8/04/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 61,65-76,83-89 and 91.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Garth Janke on Tuesday, 13 September 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

61 (currently amended) A method for releasably gripping a hole surface comprising:

providing an expansion bolt comprising ~~a cable, a collar slidably disposed on said cable, a first chock connected to a first end of said cable, a second chock for cooperation with said first chock such that relative translation of said first and second chocks in a first direction causes said first and second chocks to slidably assume relative positions corresponding to an expanded configuration of the expansion bolt that grips the hole surface, and a cleaning bushing;~~ a collar, a cable slidably running through said collar, a first chock connected to a first end of said cable, a second chock connected to said collar by a flexible rod, for cooperation with said first chock such that relative translation of said first chock in a first direction causes said first and second chocks to slidably assume relative positions corresponding to an expanded configuration of the expansion bolt that grips the hole surface, and a cleaning bushing slidably connected to said cable and captivated between said collar and first chock; said cleaning bushing being adapted to, in response to application of an impact force to said cleaning bushing, transmit a force to said first chock that results in a translation of said first chock relative to said second chock in a second direction opposite said first direction, to release said grip; wherein said cleaning bushing is adapted for transmitting to said first chock a substantial resulting force, and for transmitting to the second chock substantially no force, in response to the application of said impact force; and said cleaning bushing is adapted to translate relative to the collar so as to cause the release of said grip;

inserting said chocks in a hole and causing the expansion bolt to adopt said expanded configuration;

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moving said cleaning bushing ~~in said first direction~~ so as to make contact with ~~one of said first and second chocks~~ chock;

striking said cleaning bushing with a tool in a ~~direction substantially opposite to said first direction~~ said second direction so as to cause the expansion bolt to relax said grip; and

pulling the expansion bolt out from the hole.

62-64 (cancelled)

65 (currently amended) The expansion bolt of claim ~~64~~66, wherein said cleaning bushing is adapted to come into abutment with said one of said first and second chocks for transmitting said resulting force thereto.

77-82 (cancelled)

90 (cancelled)

91 (currently amended) The expansion bolt of claim ~~62~~66, wherein said first chock is frustoconical.

66 (currently amended) ~~The expansion bolt of claim 65, further comprising a collar, wherein said second chock is connected to said collar by a flexible rod, and wherein said cleaning bushing is adapted to translate so as to cause the release of said grip independent of the position of said collar.~~

An expansion bolt for releasably gripping a hole surface, comprising:

a collar;

a cable slidingly running through said collar;

a first chock connected to a first end of said cable;

a second chock connected to said collar by a flexible rod, for cooperation with said first chock such that relative translation of said first chock in a first direction causes said first and second chocks to slidingly assume relative positions corresponding to an expanded configuration of the expansion bolt that grips the hole surface;

a cleaning bushing slidingly connected to said cable and captivated between said collar and first chock; said cleaning bushing being adapted to, in response to application of an impact force to said cleaning bushing, transmit a force to said first chock

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that results in a translation of said first chock relative to said second chock in a second direction opposite said first direction, to release said grip;

wherein said cleaning bushing is adapted for transmitting to said first chock a substantial resulting force, and for transmitting to the second chock substantially no force, in response to the application of said impact force; and said cleaning bushing is adapted to translate relative to the collar so as to cause the release of said grip.

67 (currently amended) The expansion bolt of claim 66, further comprising a third chock, substantially identical to and azimuthally spaced apart from said second chock, and adapted for cooperation with said first chock such that relative translation of said first ~~and third chocks~~ chock in said first direction causes said first and third chocks to slidably assume relative positions corresponding to said expanded configuration of the expansion bolt.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

In short, the prior art of record does not appear to reasonably suggest a cleaning bushing slidably positioned between a collar and first chock on a cable, said cleaning bushing being slidably "independent" of the collar in an axial direction, wherein the collar and cleaning bushing are both slidably positioned on the cable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

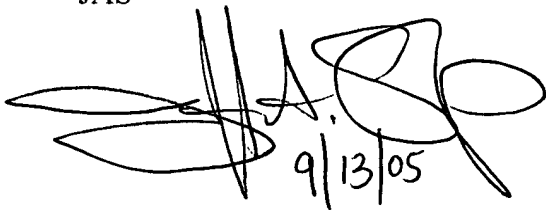
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeffrey Sharp whose telephone number is (571) 272-7074. The examiner can normally be reached on 5:30 am - 4:00 pm Mon-Thurs..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, J.J. Swann can be reached on (571) 272-7075. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

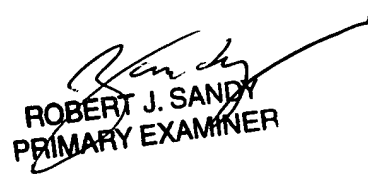
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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JAS



Handwritten signature and date 9/13/05.



Handwritten signature and printed name: ROBERT J. SANDY
PRIMARY EXAMINER